

Edmonton Bulletin.

VOL. II.

EDMONTON, N.W.T., SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1881.

No. 4.

LOCAL.

FRANK PROVOST had 500 bushels of grain off twenty acres.

The thermometer registered 22 below on Friday morning.

WINTER appears to have set in for keeps, and the sleighing is fairly good.

RABBITS are more plentiful this year than they have been for the last seven years.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to the fund for building the school house amounted to \$550 at last accounts.

Curt's threshing, which has been working in the Little Mountain settlement lately, will be at Mr. Price's to-day.

A Public meeting of the congregation of the Presbyterian church will be held in Oliver & McDonald's office on Thursday evening next at half past seven o'clock.

As the line is still down between here and Battleford we are again without telegrams. When it is once repaired it is likely to stay all right, as the cold weather has set in.

WE were misinformed in regard to Grayburn's murderer having been sentenced to death at Fort McLeod. On the contrary, at the trial no evidence was brought out against him.

The H.B.Co.'s eastern line cuts about nine feet off the corner of Ross' hotel. Mr. Ross has notified the Company to move their land from under his house as it was put there without his knowledge or consent.

Ed. Thompson had both feet and both hands slightly frozen on Tuesday night last as he was driving a load of grain from Frank Provost's to his house at Cut Bank Lake. His boots were frozen to his feet and had to be cut off.

The Cochrane Co. of Bow River have 41 thoroughbred Hereford and 8 Polled Angus bulls, each one with a pedigree half a mile long, imported direct from England and Scotland. It is said, however, that their Montana cattle are a rather inferior lot.

Mr. P. Himmick has bought Mr. J. Halpenny's claim at Fort Saskatchewan, and has taken up the claim on the opposite side of the river, making in all a mile square, with the river in the centre. This claim includes the greater part of the Island, and the best railroad crossing on the river.

THRESHING is still in progress, and the yield will be about the same as last year, with a few samples of better quality. Little or no grain has been offered for sale yet, and prices are likely to be high. Flour is still scarce at \$19 for barley, \$12 for native wheat, and imported flour from \$15 up.

Mr. W. G. Ross, of Fort Saskatchewan, left on Sunday last with twelve horses to bring up freight which is on the way for him. It amounts to forty cart loads, and was last heard of at Qu'Appelle, it being impossible to get freighters to forward it to Edmonton. He will go until he meets it, bring back twelve cart loads, and get the rest forwarded, if possible.

SIXTH has finished threshing in the St. Albert settlement above the mission, and has moved to the part below the mission. As he was crossing the Sturgeon River at Cunningham's with his engine on Tuesday, the ice gave way and let the machine into the water when nearly over. It was got out without a great deal of difficulty. The yield was 8,000 bushels, not including the new settlers on Riviere Qui Barre.

Messrs. Hardisty, Wood, Macauley and D. H. McDougall got back from Bow River on Saturday last. They visited Calgary and Morleyville. The trip out occupied six days, and the return five. All the rivers were low. D. H. McDougall had his ankle injured by a horse he was riding falling on it the day before the arrival of the party here. They were accompanied on the return trip by the Rev. John McDougall and Mrs. McDougall, sr.

DEATH OF DR. VEREY.

Dr. Verey, who has been ill for the past week, died last night about 12 o'clock. The funeral will take place on Monday at one o'clock, proceeding from his late residence to the Methodist churchyard. Rev. Mr. Baird will conduct the funeral service.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Weather report for week ending Thursday evening, 17th November, 1881. Reported for the BULLETIN by Mr. Geo. Black Wood, observer at Edmonton.

	Min.	Max.
Friday,	20	42
Saturday,	21	36
Sunday,	-5	3
Monday,	-11	3
Tuesday,	-9	2
Wednesday,	-6	2
Thursday,	-9	1

Highest wind during week occurred Saturday noon, recording twelve miles per hour. Fully an inch of snow fell Friday night, and about the same quantity during the afternoon and evening of Sunday. Half an inch fell on Monday night and a smaller quantity Tuesday evening. Ice ran very heavy Sunday and Monday, and set fast Monday night. First crossing on ice, opposite H. B. Co. Fort, on the following morning, being four days earlier than last fall.

On Monday last as Mr. Groat's children were playing near his house, a wild cow belonging to Mr. J. Norris, charged at one of the boys. He struck her on the nose with a stick and jumped out of her way. She then turned quickly towards a smaller boy, about 6 years old, caught him on her horns and carried him about 50 feet. She then threw him down and tried to gore him. Mrs. Groat, who was in the house, heard the cow bellowing, and ran out just in time to save the child's life. The cow left when she saw her coming. The boy had received a scalp wound about three inches long, a bruise behind the ear, and another on the leg. Although the injuries were severe he has almost recovered.

THERE are still on the road with Edmonton freight Joe Macdonald with a horse train, J. Inkster with oxen and horses, J. R. Matheson with oxen, and W. G. Ross with horses. Chilly weather for freighting.

THE Governor-General's party saw a band of ten buffalo near Red Deer River and killed three of them.

CONSUL TAYLOR, of Winnipeg has sent specimens of grain from Fort Vermilion on Peace River, to the St. Paul Chamber of commerce, to show how far north the wheat growing country extends.

TRUCKS have deposited \$200 with the sporting editor of the Mail to make a match with Courtney for \$500 or \$1,000 a side; course to be three or four miles straight away. Courtney will likely accept.

Mr. J. P. Wiser, M.P., of Prescott, has selected 100,000 acres of grazing land south east of Fort McLeod, around the junctions of the Old Man and St. Mary's with the Belly River. He will place a large herd of cattle on it next season.

AN Ottawa steamer for Lake Winnipeg is now being built at Winnipeg by Messrs. R. & P. George, she is a side wheeler, 90 feet long, 17 1/2 ft. beam, and six feet depth of hold. She will have three barges, and will be used in the cordwood business.

More disorderly scenes are reported from the headquarters of the Pacific division of the C.P.R. Yale, B.C. One man is badly cut and dying; another was stamped out of semblance to humanity by a gang of forty men; the wife of the railway contractor was stoned while in a carriage, but not hurt. Rows are of daily and nightly occurrence, and the unanimous verdict is that the police are inadequate.

GENERAL NEWS.

BUILDING operations still boom in Portage la Prairie.

THE Presbyterians of Prince Albert have a new brick church.

SIR LEONARD TILLEY is expected to visit the North West shortly.

THE Herald says that the Cypress mill man killed two buffalo on his last trip north.

THE price of refined sugar has been advanced one quarter of a cent a pound in Montreal.

TWO thousand square miles of timber have been swept by fire in the Parry Sound District (this fall).

THE Grand Trunk now reduces rates from Chicago to Buffalo to \$9, and from Chicago to New York to \$1.

"PROTECTION favors monopoly and monopoly kills industry," is the way the Winnipeg Free Press puts it.

THE C.P.R. Company has not fixed the crossings on the highways yet, which is a great inconvenience to settlers. Should any other obstruction which are used to be over heavy loads be left on the track serious damage might be the consequence.

TWO parties of surveyors are pushing the work of locating the Ontario & Sault Ste. Marie Railway, near Blind River, Algoma: one westward to Sault Ste. Marie, and another eastward. Mr. Edgar, the President, speaks confidently. He says, with the Grand Trunk and the Northern Pacific railway companies at his back, his company is in every way as strong as the C.P.R. A party of C.P.R. surveyors are working in the same direction.

MR. R. L. Tupper, superintendent of the telegraph line, writes as follows to the Winnipeg Free Press concerning frozen crops in the Saskatchewan:—"Every year there will, for a number of years, be some grain frozen. The reason is that new settlers will come in late, break, and put in a crop long after it should be in. No grain put in on old land in proper time has been frozen in the North West either this year or any other year, and I am prepared to 'argue the question' with the originator of any report to the contrary."

NOTICE is given in the Canada Gazette that application will be made for a charter for "The Bow River Stock Company," organized for the breeding, raising, buying and selling cattle, horses, sheep and other stock, and the carrying on in all its branches of stock-raising at or in the Bow River Country, in the North-West Territory, with a head office in Montreal. The capital stock of the Company will be two hundred thousand dollars, divided into two thousand shares of one hundred dollars each. The names of the applicants are Andrew Allan, Robert A. Smith, John Cassis, Frank Stephan, Walter Wilson, Thomas D. Milburne, all of Montreal; and Frederick Smith Stinson, of Compton, in the Province of Quebec.

THE notice of application to the Dominion Parliament for an act to incorporate a company to build a railway from Portage la Prairie to the Forks of the Saskatchewan, with a branch to Battleford, and a branch southerly to the main C.P.R. line, referred to recently in the Free Press Ottawa telegrams, is signed by Drummond Bros. & Co. It is understood that the principal persons in the scheme are the Messrs. Allan and Ralpath, of Montreal. A similar bill, applied for last session, was slaughtered among the innocents. The Portage, Westbourne & Northwestern Co., which was incorporated by the Manitoba Legislature, will probably apply for a Dominion charter next session.

ST. ANDREW'S HALL.

A grand ball, to celebrate the day of the patron saint of Scotland, will be held in McDougall's Hall on the evening of Friday, the 25th inst., to commence at 8 o'clock.

Admission—Gents \$1.00; Ladies free.

GENERAL NEWS.

RAPID City is assessed at \$87,616.

HEAVY frost in Milbrook, Ont., on Sept. 12th.

BRITISH Columbia harvest is said to be good.

GENERAL Burnside died at Bristol, N.J., on Sept. 13th.

The Canada Temperance Act is in force in Victoria, Nova Scotia.

WINNIPEG is now connected with the Penitentiary by telephone.

Iron piping for the Winnipeg water works is brought from Glasgow.

WINNIPEG is speculating in a pack, two and a half miles from Main street.

A TURNIP raised at Oak River, N.W.T., measures 36 inches in circumference.

The Portage wants three trains a day each way between there and Winnipeg.

The Ontario Provincial Exhibition held at London was attended by 115,000 people.

A FRODO started for Mrs. Garfield and children amounted to \$239,634 at last accounts.

A Mr. DORR, M. P. of Nova Scotia, is mentioned as a probable successor to Gov. Laird.

The Princess Louise was to sail for Canada on October 29th. Now Canadians can sleep at nights.

Potato blight has appeared in various sections in Nova Scotia, and serious damage is feared.

The advertised sale of Government river lots in Manitoba has been postponed for one month.

The Gooderham firm of Toronto have lost \$25,000 by forest fires in the Nipissing district this fall.

The Don Carlos Indians, of Arizona have broken out. They had killed six men at last accounts.

One million dollars' worth of timber has been lost in the Parry Sound district by forest fires this fall.

The new C. P. R. line between Winnipeg and the Portage will be 55 miles in length. The old line is 78.

STANLEY, the African explorer, who was seriously ill in May last, has been heard from and has quite recovered.

The value of goods imported into Canada last July was \$3,979,910, and the amount of duty collected was \$1,772,663.

Liquor is sold openly over the bar at Brandon, although nominally the prohibitory liquor law is still in force.

In Montreal, mink is said to be worth \$1.00, marten, \$1.25, beaver, \$2.15 per lb., fisher, \$5, otter, \$3 and rats 10 to 12 cents.

A LAND slide occurred in Switzerland at the village of Elm, by which thirty houses were destroyed and 200 people killed.

The Ogilvie Milling Co. is to erect a grist mill in Winnipeg six stories high. It is to be free from taxation for twenty years.

The revenue of the Dominion for the month of August was \$2,833,498, and the expenditure for the same time was \$1,299,709.

HON. WM. McDONALD has been appointed Resident Director of the Great North-West Telegraph Company, with his office in Ottawa.

At the rifle match to select a Manitoba member for the Canadian Wimbledon team, the highest score was made by Andrew Gillis—313.

A LINE of steamers is to be put on between St. John, N.B., and Europe. The first vessel purchased is 1,900 tons burden, and cost \$20,000.

REV. LACHLAN TAYLOR, of the Methodist church, who made a tour through this country a number of years ago, died on the 4th of September.

Rock Lake country, west of Pembina Mountains, sports a paper, the Rock Lake Herald. Four or five years ago there was not a white man in that country.

The Dominion has a surplus for the past year of \$4,000,000, which the London Free Press says is to be applied to the reduction of the public debt. Good!

The freight on a barrel of flour from Chicago to New York at present is sixteen cents. Compare that with ten cents a pound between Winnipeg and Edmonton.

An alliance between Russia and Germany is said to have been formed.

The Scott Temperance Act has been carried in Hants county, Nova Scotia, by a large majority.

MOORE & McDowell have the contract of supplying the Indian Department flour for the Battleford district.

The Manitoba & South-Western Railway will be graded from Winnipeg to the Boyne River this fall, a distance of 50 miles.

The Montreal Herald thinks it is time the miserable Biddulph tragedy were hustled off the stage. It is certainly high time the perpetrators were "hustled off the stage."

The intense heat of the forest fires in Michigan killed numbers of the fish in the rivers and they rose to the surface by hundreds.

The Grand Trunk Railway has for some time been trying to obtain control of the Toronto, Grey & Bruce line, but has failed. The line will hereafter be worked on an independent basis.

JAY GOULD'S Canadian telegraph monopoly is called the Great North-West Telegraph Co., and is under the management of Mr. H. P. Dwight, formerly manager of the Montreal Telegraph Company.

The C.P.R. company offers to build a line from Winnipeg to Selkirk on the west side of Red River if the municipality of St. Andrew's will give a bonus of \$70,000. The proposal is likely to be accepted.

A LOT 60 feet wide in Portage la Prairie has been purchased for \$3,000, and seventy-five dollars a foot is the price asked for other lots. The Portage is still slightly ahead of Edmonton; but just hold on.

Town plots have been laid out at Poplar Point and High Bluff stations on the C. P. R. An elevator is to be built at High Bluff, and the mills, stores, etc., now standing, will be moved to the new location.

HEAVY snow storms occurred in the Black Hills on Monday night, Sept. 5th. On Tuesday morning the snow was five inches on the level and three inches at Custer City. At Bald Mountain it was two feet deep.

ALREADY a new telegraph company has been organized in the States called the Mutual Union in opposition to Gould's monopoly, and was to have had communication established between all principal cities by October 1st.

The following is a complete list of C.P.R. stations between Winnipeg and Brandon, with their distances from Winnipeg: Stonewall 13 miles, Stonewall 29, Hamlin 39, Meadow Lea 37, Poplar Heights 41, Ossawa 49, High Bluff 60, Portage la Prairie 63, MacKenzie 78, McGregor 85, Austin 97, Sydney 105, DeWinton 117, Chater 133, Brandon 145.

An attempt to kill Gaitteau, the murderer of President Garfield, was made by one of the soldiers on guard named Mason. He fired through the cell window, the ball going through Gaitteau's coat. After Mason fired the shot he walked towards the commanding officer, saying: "Captain, I have tried to kill that dirty loafer in there. I did not enlist to guard an assassin. Here's my gun and bayonet, take me in charge."

The three physicians who attended President Garfield charged \$100 per day each, the total bill being \$21,400, just about the estimated value of the Garfield estate, which would appear to show that doctors as well as lawyers can sometimes calculate pretty closely. However, it is almost certain that the Government will assume the payment of all bills incurred during the illness of President Garfield, as he was shot because he was the President.

At a conference between Sir Charles Tupper and the local Executive of British Columbia, the latter agreed to convey all the coal lands on Vancouver Island, including a strip of agricultural land of the full length and breadth east and west, to the Dominion for the construction of the Island Railway at an early date. The late Government previously contended that they were obliged to convey only 65 miles long and 20 miles broad between Nanaimo and Esquimalt. The new arrangement increases the tract to 141 miles long and 40 wide.

A. MACDONALD & CO.

To the people of Edmonton and surrounding country:

A. MACDONALD & Co. have now on hand a general and well assorted stock of

GENERAL DRY GOODS,

READY-MADE CLOTHING

BLANKETS and KNITTED GOODS.

AND FOR

CHOICE TEAS,

SUGARS

TOBACCOS

and all kinds of groceries, call at

A. MACDONALD & Co.'s

CANNED MEATS,

CANNED FRUITS,

DRIED FRUIT

and all kinds of SPICES always kept in stock, and A. MACDONALD & Co. will sell them at low prices, for their motto is—"Live and let live."

A. MACDONALD & Co.

have

STOVES, TINWARE

and JAPANNED GOODS,

and a good stock of

GENERAL HARDWARE and

SHELF GOODS

P. HEIMNICK,

(St. Jean's new building, south side of Main St.,)

has on hand a large and carefully selected stock of

DRY GOODS AND

HARDWARE

direct from Montreal, for sale at lowest prices for

CASH OR GRAIN.

GROCERIES and BOOTS and SHOES to arrive by McPherson's train.

Fourteen oxen and horses, for which grain will be taken in exchange.

TO ARRIVE.

A large number of carts are now on the road with a heavy stock of WINTER GOODS for

A. MACDONALD & Co.

LOCAL.

Dr. VEREY has been very ill for some days past.

BUILDING operations are still continued in spite of the cold weather.

The river closed on Monday night last, and people crossed a-foot on Tuesday.

The H. B. Co. commenced killing their winter supply of meat on Thursday.

E. PAGE arrived from Battleford on Monday night with freight for the Indian Department.

The section of the Fort wall which blew down last week has been put in position again.

R. McLENNAN's carts arrived at Ft. Saskatchewan on Tuesday with seven loads for J. Haley.

REV. MR. STEINHAUS, of Whitefish Lake, who has been in Canada for some time past, got home last week.

FRANK HART, of Horse Hill prairie, had 700 bushels of grain off 24 acres—20 bushels to the acre. Not so bad for a bad year.

As Mr. Walters' cattle were crossing the river on Wednesday, one of them broke through when near the north side, but got out without difficulty.

Court will be held in this district on the 12th of next month. Notice of action must be given twenty days before. Dr. Verey is clerk of the court.

REV. MR. WHITESIDES, Methodist missionary at Prince Albert, formerly of this place, is said to draw a large congregation, and is very successful in his work.

This Herald says that the authorities of the Roman Catholic church have in consideration the appointment of an English-speaking coadjutor Bishop of St. Albert Diocese.

MESSRS. G. Sanderson, Ed. Luby and J. Leonard arrived on Monday last with six carts containing a complete blacksmithing outfit. They will start a blacksmith shop here.

REV. JOHN McDONALD, of Morleyville, preached in the Methodist church here on Sunday evening last, and left on Tuesday for Victoria, Whitefish Lake and Lac a Beche.

REV. CANON NEWTON's lecture in A. T. Saint's Church last Sunday evening was attended by a large and interested audience. The next lecture of the series will be in the same place to-morrow evening at the same hour.

LOUIS LAFRANCE raised a turnip this season that weighed 20 pounds and measured three feet in circumference, while Dan Williams, of Peace River, says in that country he saw a turnip as big round as a gold pan—over four feet.

Ed. McPHELAN arrived on Monday evening last from Winnipeg with 45 carts, having 45,000 pounds of freight on board. This was the largest train of the season. About 22,000 pounds were for A. MacDonald & Co., 10,000 for Brown & Curry, 1,000 for P. Heimanick, 1,000 for J. Ross and an iron pump and pipes for Hardisty & Fraser, for use in their mill, besides about 2,000 pounds of sundries. The outfit left Winnipeg on the 8th of August and comprised 7 men, 45 carts, 57 oxen and 13 horses. One man drove the ten horse carts, five men drove six ox carts apiece, and one five. The provisions used on the trip included 14 sacks of flour, 5 sacks of bacon, and 200 lbs. of butter, hard tallow and sundries. The first week was occupied in getting to House's, 30 miles, as the oxen were unbroken, and a month to Ellice. About a week and a half was lost at Ellice in going from the upper crossing to the warehouse for freight and in going up the sand hill. From Ellice to the South Branch took another month. The South Branch was crossed in two days. From the South Branch to Battleford took nearly two weeks, and at Battleford the first snow came, and after was the cold weather. From Battleford to Ft. Saskatchewan took four weeks. The Vermilion had to be rafted, which took a day and a half. Crossing at Ft. Saskatchewan took three days, and from there to Edmonton four days. During the latter part of the trip the ground was frozen, which was hard on the oxen's feet. Several had to be shod. But on the whole the stock, as well as the freight, arrived in good condition. One ox was left at Touchwood Hills, and four carts were left broken on the road. The freight was delivered for nine and a half cents per pound.

BOW RIVER.

About the tenth of October there was a foot of snow at Calgary, two feet at McLeod and three feet at the Milk River Ridge near the boundary line, but it all disappeared in a few days.

The party of surveyors who had been exploring for a pass through the Mountains in the vicinity of Bow River, started east about the beginning of the storm, on the river, and were frozen in at the Blackfoot crossing. They started on for Qu'Appelle on foot and sent to Fort McLeod for carts to transport their goods. Mr. J. J. McHugh, formerly of the Riviere Qui Barre Indian farm, was with them. They are said to have found a very good pass through the Rockies, but have considerable trouble with the ranges beyond. However, they expect to get through by that route. The line is located to cross the South Branch at the mouth of Red Deer, and to strike the Bow River at Calgary. About twenty families have settled at the Forks.

The crops in that country were not generally a success last season, but Mr. John Glen, at Fish Creek, about six miles from Calgary, had good wheat, sowed on the 27th of May, part on the hill and part in the flat of the creek. His oats and barley were also good. He had about 40 acres under crop. The Indian farm at the mouth of Fish Creek had a fair crop. The potato crop differed greatly in different localities, some good and some bad.

The Indians have been getting rations all summer and are reasonably quiet.

The Stoney payments only came off on the 7th inst. Mr. Norman McLeod, the paymaster, had promised to be on hand in the early part of October, so that they were kept waiting a month, which caused considerable grumbling. The Stoney number 600 or 700.

About two months ago a band of Bloods and Piegiens ran off 50 horses from Morleyville belonging to Mr. D. McDougall and others. They crossed the Old Man's River at Fort McLeod, driving them right through the town at night. Some one gave the alarm and the Police turned out on their track and overtook them the next day. They brought back the men and all but three or four of the horses. The Indians were tried at Fort McLeod, and one named Jingling Bells was sentenced to three years' imprisonment in the Manitoba penitentiary. The other two got eighteen months and one year's imprisonment respectively. The horses were given up to the owners.

Mr. Geddes arrived at Bow River from Winnipeg with his band of 200 thoroughbred cows, imported from Ontario. They travelled via Qu'Appelle, Cypress and McLeod. They lost very few cattle on the road, but after arriving at the ranch near Ghost River, seven head got into a creek that was filled over with snow and perished. He does not intend to feed any hay this winter, but old residents advise him to do so, as his cattle are not acclimatized. Mr. Patrick, who went to meet Mr. Geddes at Winnipeg, has taken a ranch at Red Deer Forks.

The Cochrane Co. have 7,000 cattle and 400 horses on their range. They have about 20 miles on Bow River, commencing at a point ten miles from Calgary and extending four miles back on each side. The buildings are in the middle of the range, about 20 miles from Calgary.

A Mr. McDonald has bought out the H.B.C. buildings at the mouth of Ghost River, and will start a ranch there next summer.

The past season was very wet.

The river closed in October, but opened again.

Flour, bacon and goods of all kinds are scarce at Bow River, owing to the Missouri boats not being able to come up further than Cow Island this fall, which doubles the freighting distance. Supplies will come in, however, during the winter.

COL. MULLIGAN, of Winnipeg, lately sold 411 acres on the south side of the Assiniboine for \$25,000, and seven and half acres on Portage Avenue and the Mulligan Reserve Park for \$20,000, to Blackmore & Cadham.

A THREE feet auriferous vein of quartz has been discovered on one of the mining locations at the Lake of the Woods by Mr. Geo. McVicar.

CITY OF EDMONTON.

situated at the head of navigation on the North Saskatchewan River; the centre of the Gold, Coal, Timber and Mineral region of the Great North-West, and surrounded by the richest wheat-producing country in the world.

The four great highways leading from Winnipeg, the great Bow River grazing country, the Peace River country and British Columbia via the Jasper Pass, centre on the Town Site.

It is the terminus of the C.P. telegraph line, the North-West mail route, and the projected Saskatchewan branch of the C.P.R.

The Hudson's Bay Co. offer for sale 1,000 lots on the above town site at low prices and on reasonable terms.

All information can be had by applying at the H.B.Co. offices in Winnipeg or Montreal.

R. MCGINN, C. J. BRYDGES,
Agent, Edmonton. Commissioner.

A. MACDONALD & CO.

To the people of Edmonton and surrounding country:

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READY-MADE CLOTHING,

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THE EDMONTON BULLETIN

will be published every Saturday morning from the 29th of October until the 1st of May.

Subscription for the season, \$2.00

Advertising rates:—Five lines, three insertions, \$1.00; ten lines, three months, \$5.00; ten lines, six months, \$10.00.

Job work done neatly, quickly and cheaply at the Bulletin office.

Terms strictly cash.

All communications to be addressed to Frank Oliver, Edmonton, or A. Dunlop, Winnipeg.

Three issues of the present volume will be sent to our subscribers of last year, after which the paper will be discontinued unless the subscriptions are renewed.

OLIVER & DUNLOP,
Proprietors.

EDMONTON BULLETIN, NOV. 19, 1881.

THE MAILS.

The Saskatchewan Herald of Oct. 3rd remarks that the provisional contract for carrying the mail between Winnipeg and Edmonton expires in a few weeks, and puts in a plea that it shall be run more frequently, that it shall be run from Battleford on the north side of the Saskatchewan, and that it be extended to the South West or Bow River—in all of which requests we heartily join. It also says that the contract now expiring has been fairly carried out, and has given general satisfaction, with which statement we feel obliged to disagree. While no doubt the contractors at all times tried faithfully to carry the mail on time there is no doubt that during a good part of the time they equally failed, and still the contract just expired has been filled fully as well as the preceding one. Nearly half the time during the last three years the mail has been behind time, sometimes as much as three weeks, and once the spring before last it was six weeks. That particular mail left Winnipeg in February and got here in May. It had a large amount of garden seeds, which were too late for sowing that season, thereby entailing considerable loss to the settlement.

In the winter the contractors have not been obliged to take parcels, and for express matter last winter they charged the small sum of 45 cents a pound. Perhaps that is not too much for the service, and perhaps it is too much to expect that seeds and parcels should be carried through in winter; but if there is need of a parcel or seed post anywhere it is here in the winter. If a mail is to be run at all for the benefit of the people here, it is hard to see why they should not have the full benefit as well as those in any other part of the Dominion.

Another complaint we have to make is that at Battleford, when the mail arrived from the east before that from the west had arrived, it would be started east again, and eastern bound matter would consequently have to lay at Battleford from the time of the arrival of the western mail until that from the east came in again, nearly three weeks, quite an extension of a trip that ordinarily took four weeks. The principle cause of this way of doing business was the fact of the part of the route from Battleford to here being in the hands of a sub-contractor, who lacked either the will or ability to put on stock enough to put the mail through in good shape. Since the route was changed from the north to the south side of the Saskatchewan, it has been run the three hundred miles, both in summer and winter, without change of horses. It would be too much to expect that good time could be made under such circumstances. It is only fair to the sub-contractor, however, to say that there has been as little

time lost on this end of the line as on any other part of equal distance. It may be that the service is all that can be given for the amount of subsidy received; but be that as it may, the service has been far from satisfactory.

Of course the mail, even as it has been carried, has been a great benefit to the settlements, and at the time of the giving of the first contract was all that could reasonably be expected, but since then the country has made such progress that it is utterly inadequate to the wants of the community, and even if a five years' contract were let now on a new footing the probability is that before the term was concluded it would be further behind the times than the expiring one is now. Neither would it be wise to let the contract for a shorter term, as in that case it would not be worth a company's while to fix up the line with stock, vehicles and stations as it should be. Once every two weeks is as often perhaps as the mail is needed just now, but sufficient subsidy should be given to build stations all along the route and to ensure the carrying of the mail according to agreement, and when the stations were once up the frequency of the service could be increased at comparatively little cost and on short notice, but without sufficient stations and stock it is foolish to expect that the contract can be satisfactorily filled, be the contractor ever so willing.

In the south-western part of the Territory there is not a post office, although it embraces the Fts. Walsh, McLeod and Calgary settlements, at which points the greater part of the Police force is stationed, besides the large ranches in the vicinity of Morleyville. A Police mail is carried from Benton to Fts. McLeod and Calgary, and another from Benton to Ft. Walsh and thence to Battleford. If it pays the Police Department to run a mail for their own private use, it ought surely be worth while to run a mail for the public at large, with the police included. It can cost no more were it run by the Postoffice Department and would be much more satisfactory to the public generally. If mail communication is to be established throughout the South West it is to be hoped that the system will be extended to Edmonton so that the two parts of the Territory may be assisted in their intercourse. The distance from Calgary to Edmonton is only 200 miles, and a comparatively small amount would be sufficient to give the connection that is becoming more necessary every day.

The idea is gaining ground in Canada that in the North-West, instead of having a white elephant, she has that on which she must, and may safely, depend for future greatness and prosperity. The precise value of the territory of course cannot now be estimated, but if a narrow strip of land along the great lakes and the Gulf of St. Lawrence can build up a country such as Canada is now, it is fair to suppose that the area and quality of land in the North-West is sufficient to support a population that will place Canada in the front rank of the nations and fully abreast of the great adjoining Republic, whose example we can profit by, and whose errors we may avoid.

A PECULIAR fact has been noticed this year, viz, that while in this vicinity the crops have been somewhat touched with frost, at Lac la Piche, 100 miles north of here, they were not, neither were they at White Fish Lake, Pigeon Lake, Lake Ste. Anne or Beaver Lake. The reason given is that at these settlements the crops are sown on dry land near the lake, and the presence of a large body of water keeps off the frost. The theory is that the water being warm during the day gives off sufficient heat at night to keep off frost in the immediate vicinity.

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